

Packetized Energy Management

Coordinating Transmission and Distribution

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University of Vermont / Packetized Energy

Network Optimized Distributed Energy Systems (NODES)
Annual Review Meeting

Feb 13, 2019





E pluribus unum

Technical team



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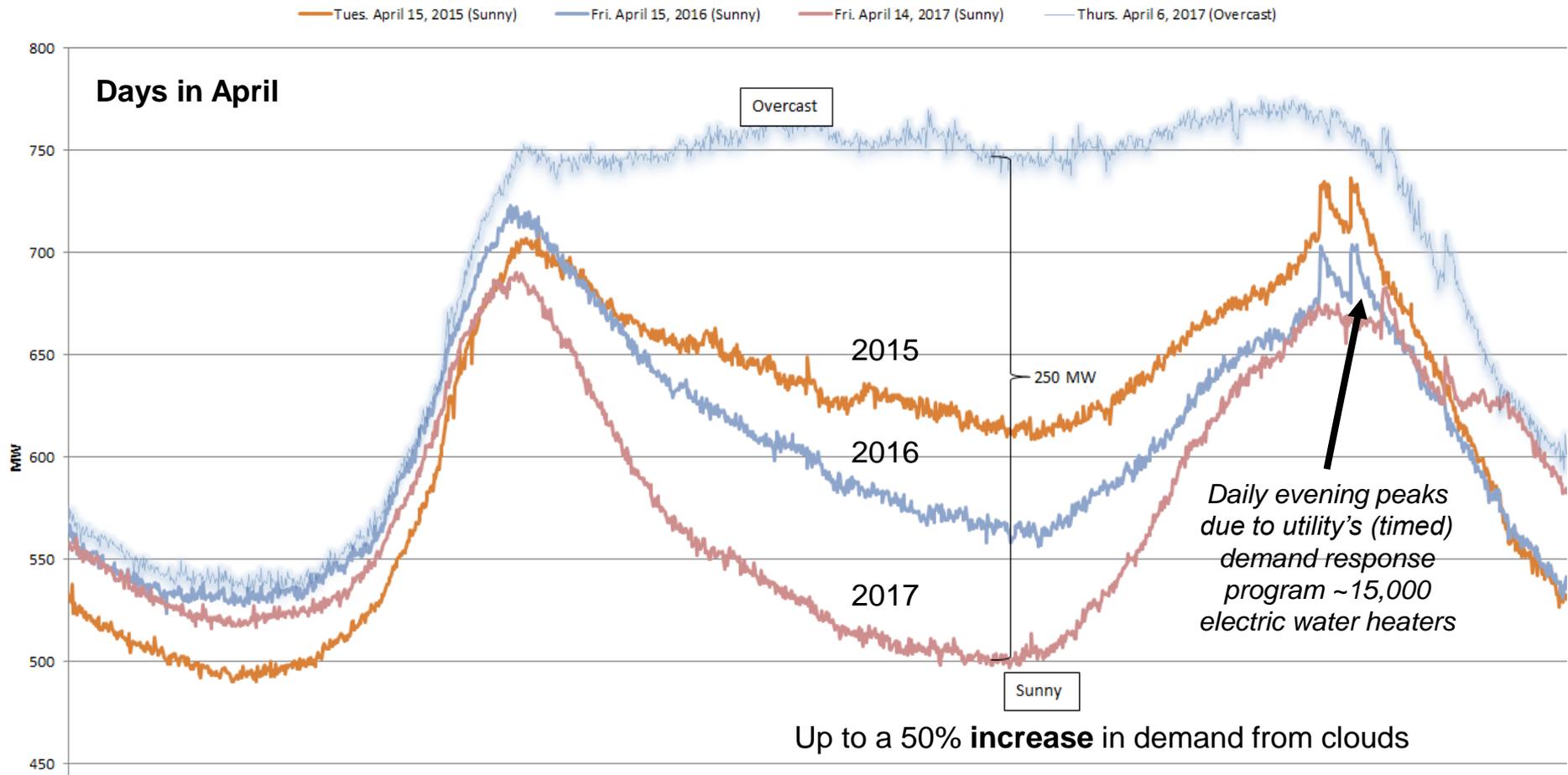
Optimization | Communications | Power | Controls

Validation partners

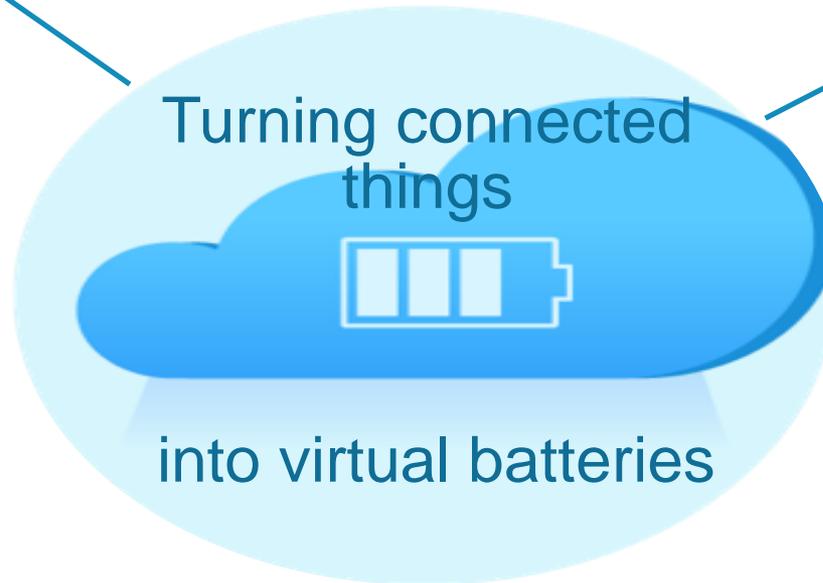


T&D | SaaS | IoT

Renewables are coming, even in Vermont



Connecting trends



Leverage key tools to coordinate at scale

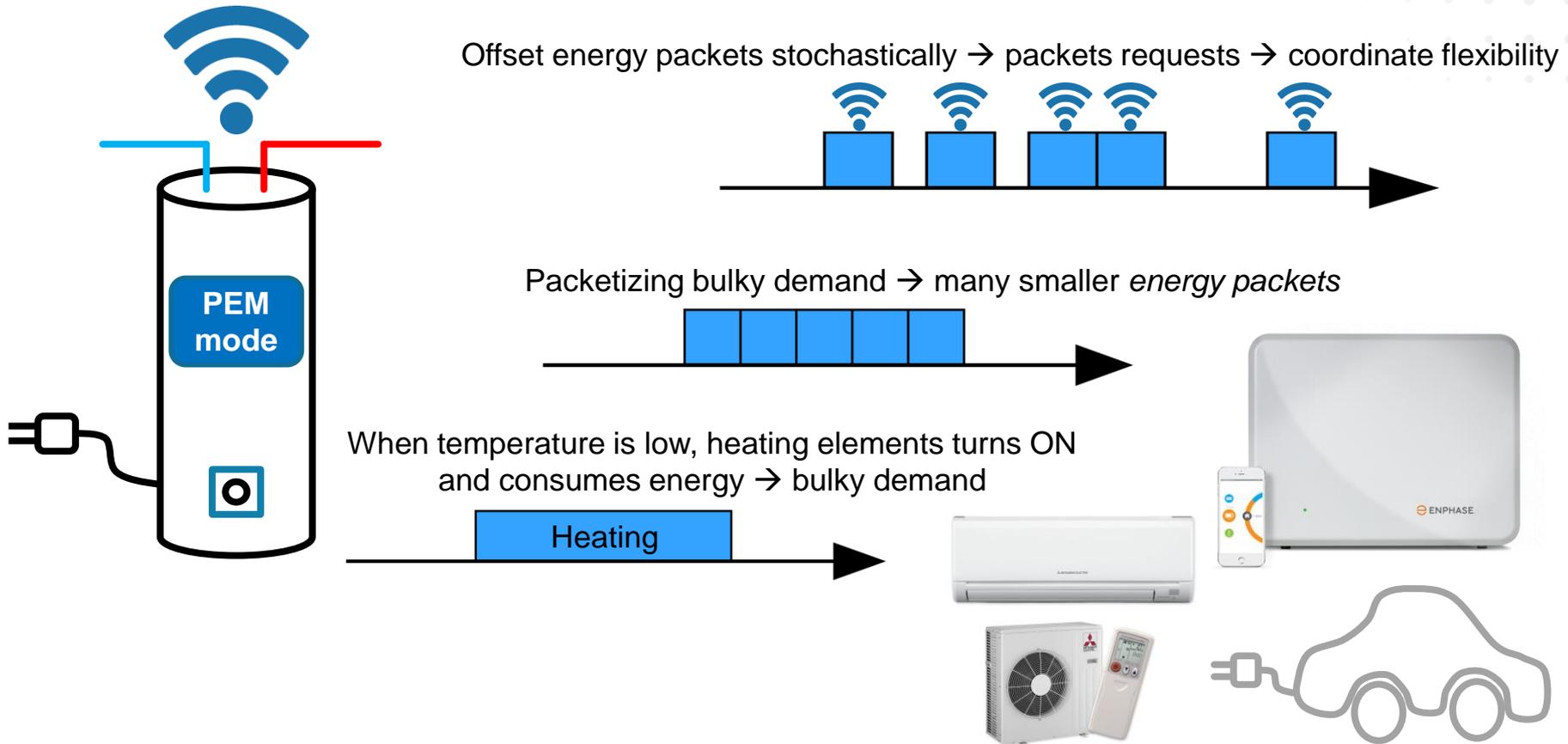
Packetization



Randomization

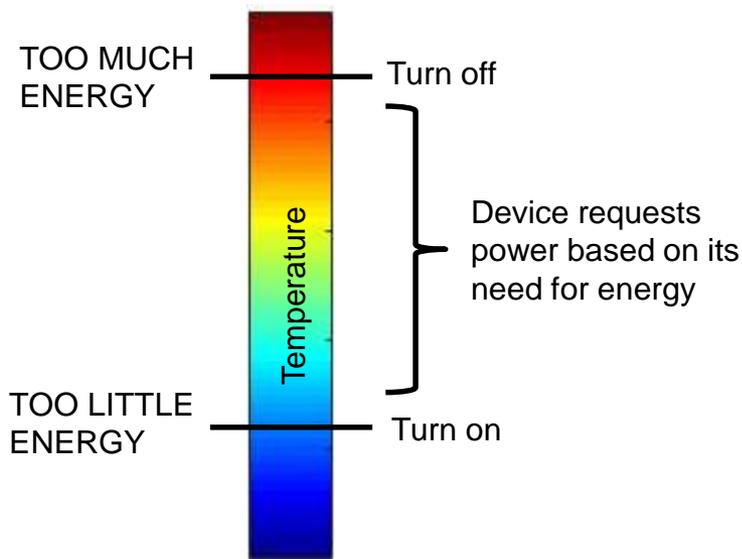
Packetized Energy Management: DER

Energy packet = constant power consumed over fixed epoch =



Packetized Energy Management: DER

Take a DER that has stored energy and occasional usage



Great need for energy

- ▶ More frequent requests

Less need for energy

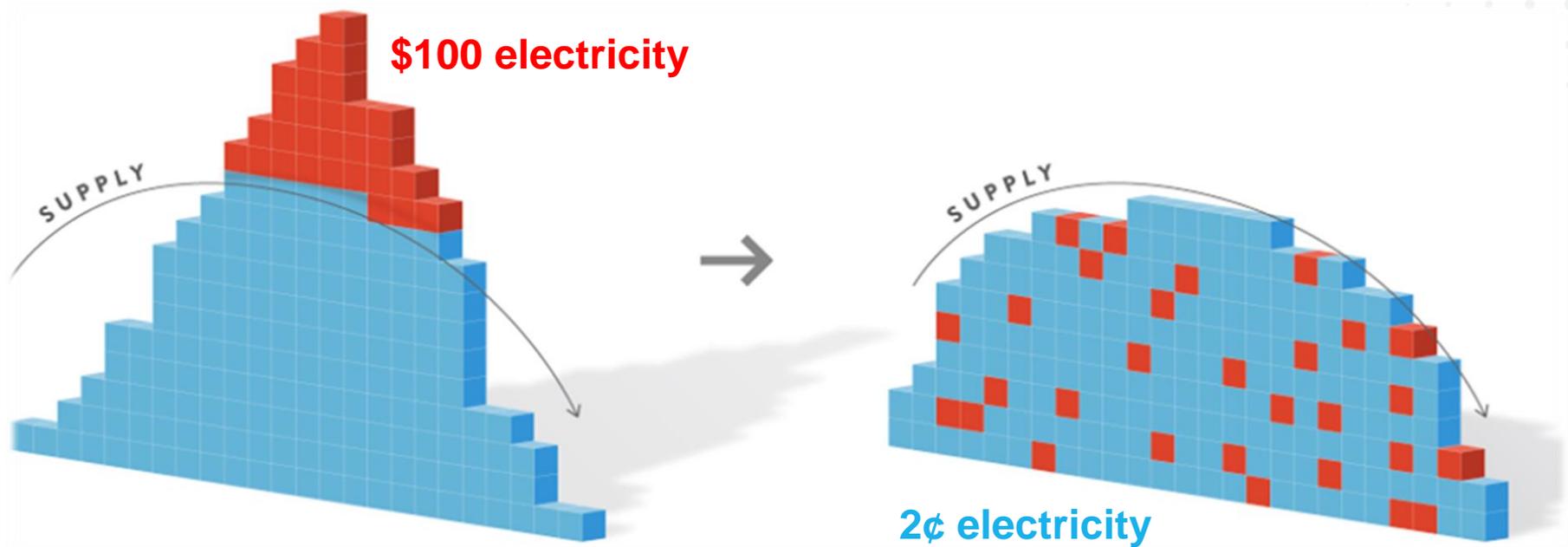
- ▶ Less frequent requests

Too little energy

- ▶ Just run to make sure people get the energy they need (“temporary opt out”)

Guarantees QoS!

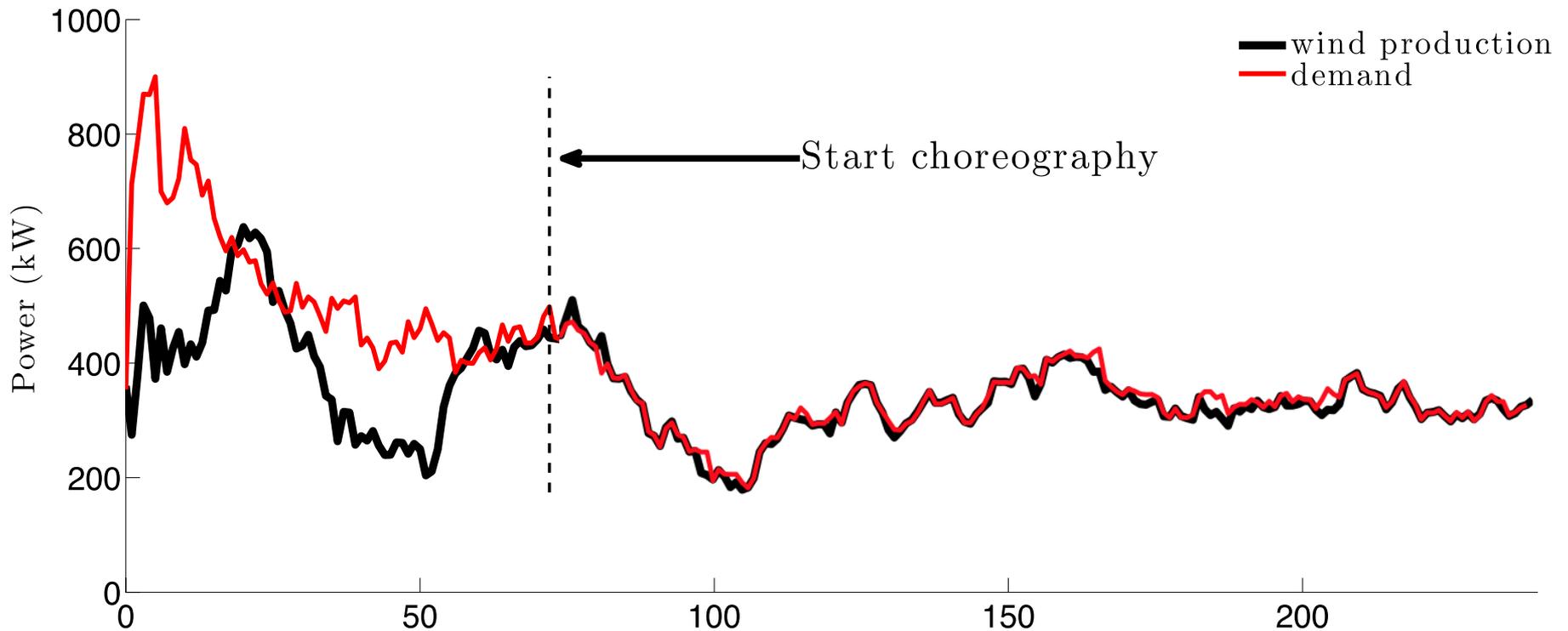
Packetized Energy Management: Fleet





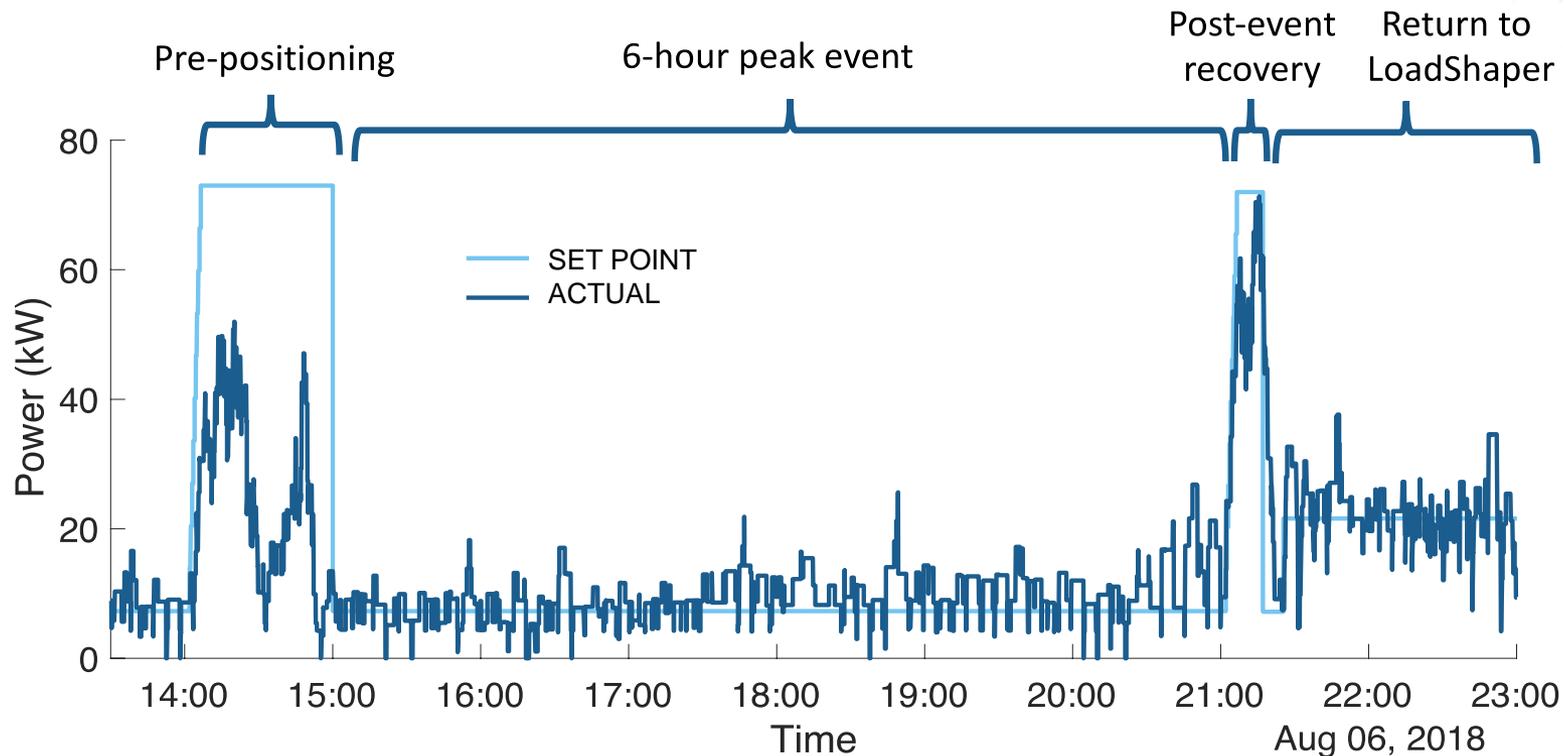
And it works really well

Example simulation with 300 packetized water heaters



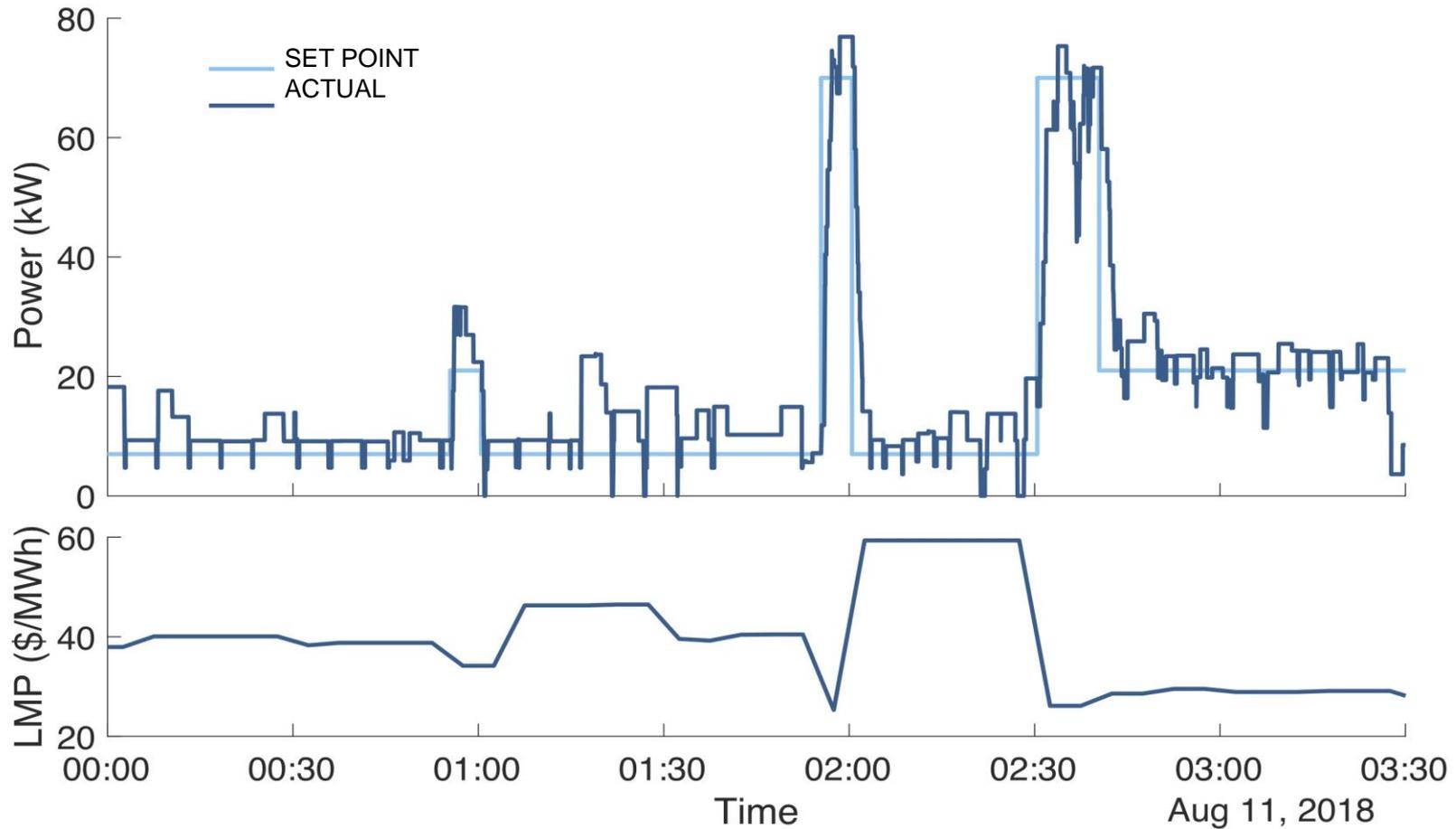
300 5-kW water heaters choreographed by PEM to track with 350 ± 150 kW of renewable generation **in real-time**

Also in the real world (crushing peaks)



ABOUT 60 WATER HEATERS, VERMONT ELETRIC CO-OP (raw kW data)

Also in the real world (arbitraging)



ABOUT 60 WATER HEATERS, VERMONT ELETRIC CO-OP (raw kW data)

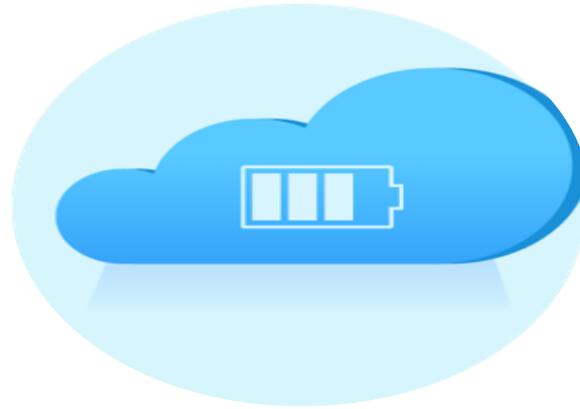


More than just water heaters

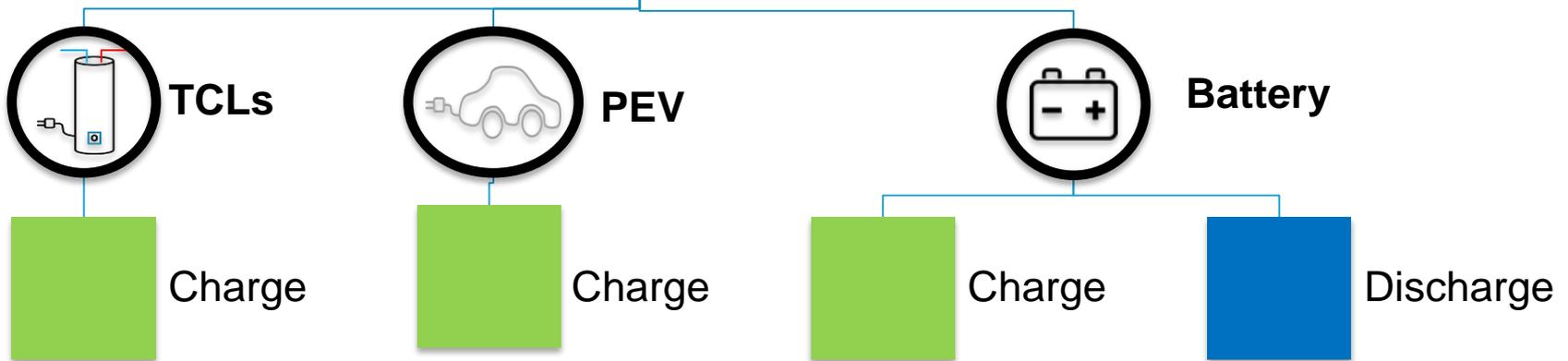
PEM can coordinate *diverse* DERs under single VB

A ping is just a ping!

- Two types of requests
 1. Charge
 2. Discharge



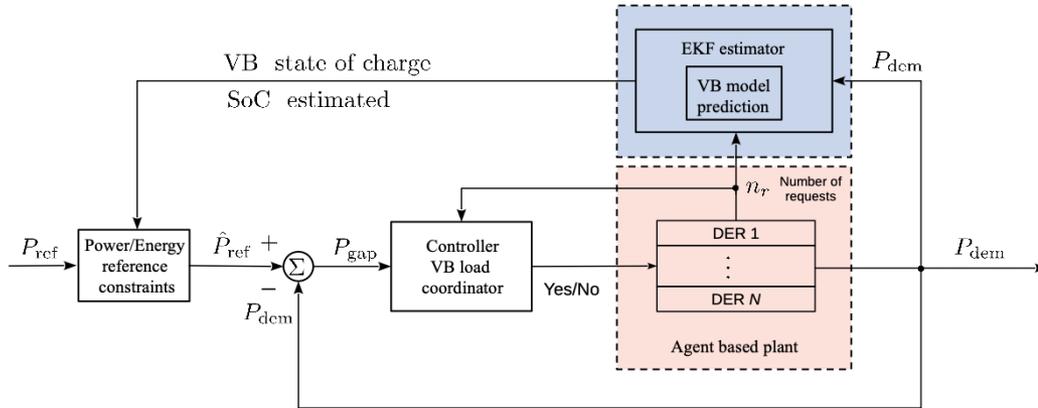
Diverse VB



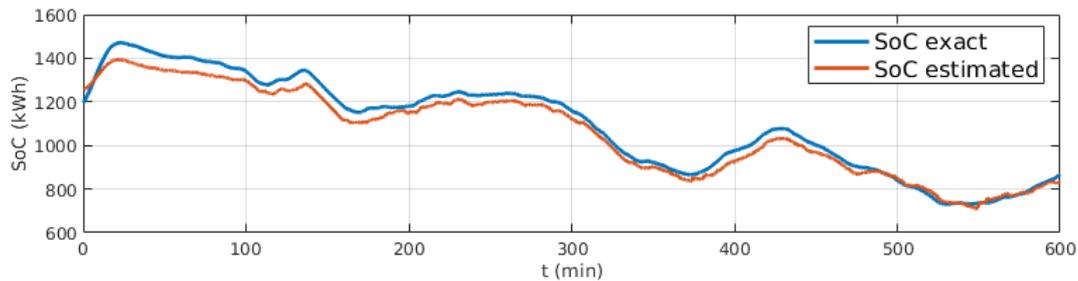
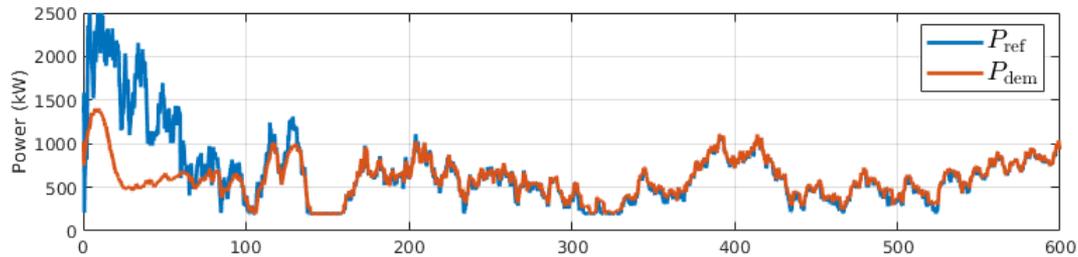
A single VPP coordinates requests from diverse types of DERs!



Infer state-of-charge of VB



Only needs total number of requests and total demand per 15s interval as inputs (2 data pts).

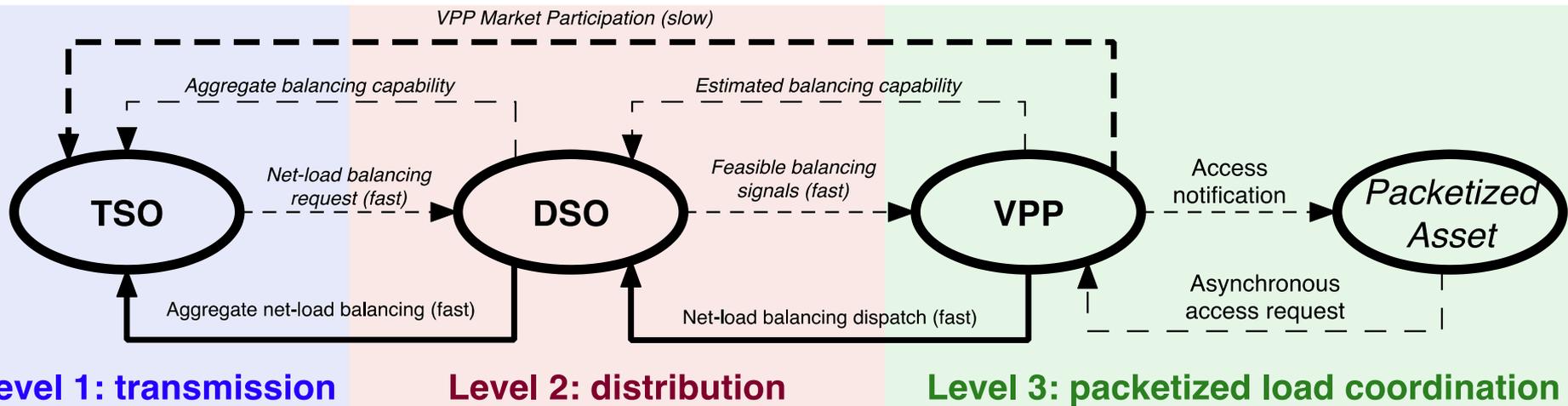




Project approach

▶ Bringing technologies together

- Packetized Load Coordination (patented) is scalable, privacy-aware, fair, and plug-and-playable.
- Model-Predictive Control will manage uncertainty in available renewables and packetized loads to balance net-load in T&D in receding horizon fashion.





Project goals

VPP modeling,
quantify
uncertainty and
flexibility

Transmission (ISO)
Dispatch Signal

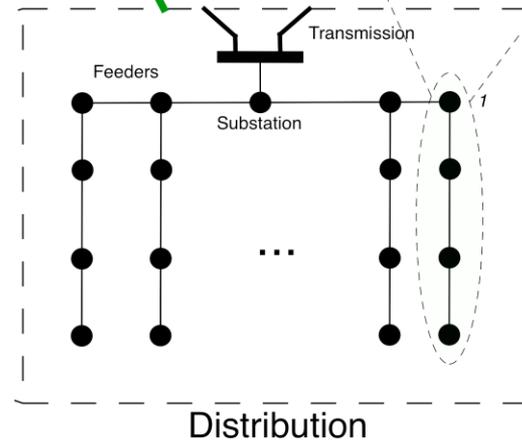
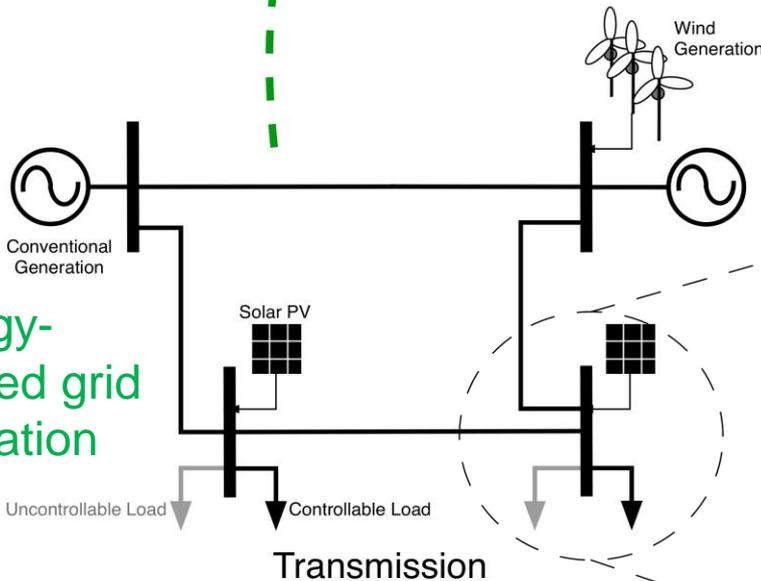
**Virtual
Power Plant**

Packetized
algorithms for
diverse DERs

DERs

Distribution
System
Constraints

Energy-
constrained grid
optimization



Grid
constraint
handling



Project Progress

Year 1: technical developments

T&D modeling, optimization, control

- Hourly realizable reference trajectories
- Min-by-min AGC-like balancing signals

VPP tracking and inference

- Quantify uncertainty, tracking performance, communication needs

Packetized asset automata design

- e.g., TCLs, Evs, BESS



Year 2: initial hardware validation and uncertainty

Uncertainty in VPP for T&D
Chance-constrained optimization

Validation with HiL Simulations
Small-scale complete; larger scale complete



Year 3: final validation and demonstration

Large-scale realistic simulations

Utility demonstration with > 100 hardware devices



Validation Plan (HIL)

Level 3: Virtual Power Plants (VPPs)

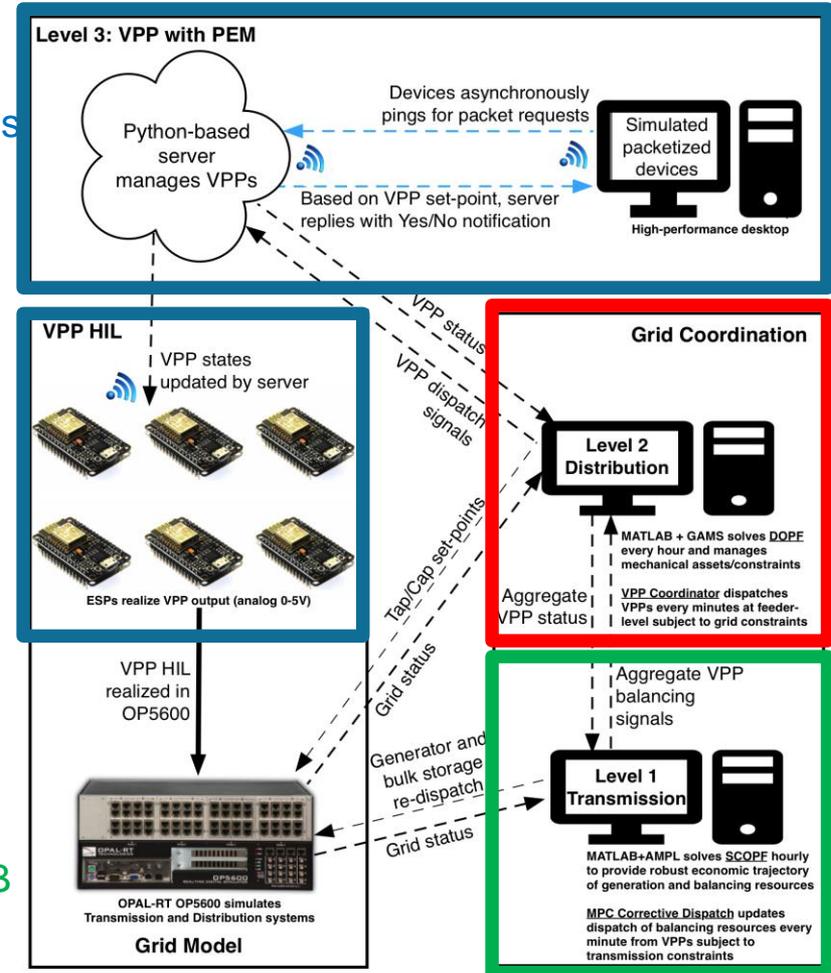
- ▶ Packetized devices are implemented in software on PC and aggregated into local VPPs
 - ESPs are physical realization of VPP
- ▶ VPPs are implemented on server and communicates with Level 2 and ESPs over WiFi

Level 2: Distribution System Operator (DSO)

- ▶ DSO measures VPPs' local feeder/Xfmr flows and updates each VPP's target values.

Level 1: Transmission System Operator (TSO)

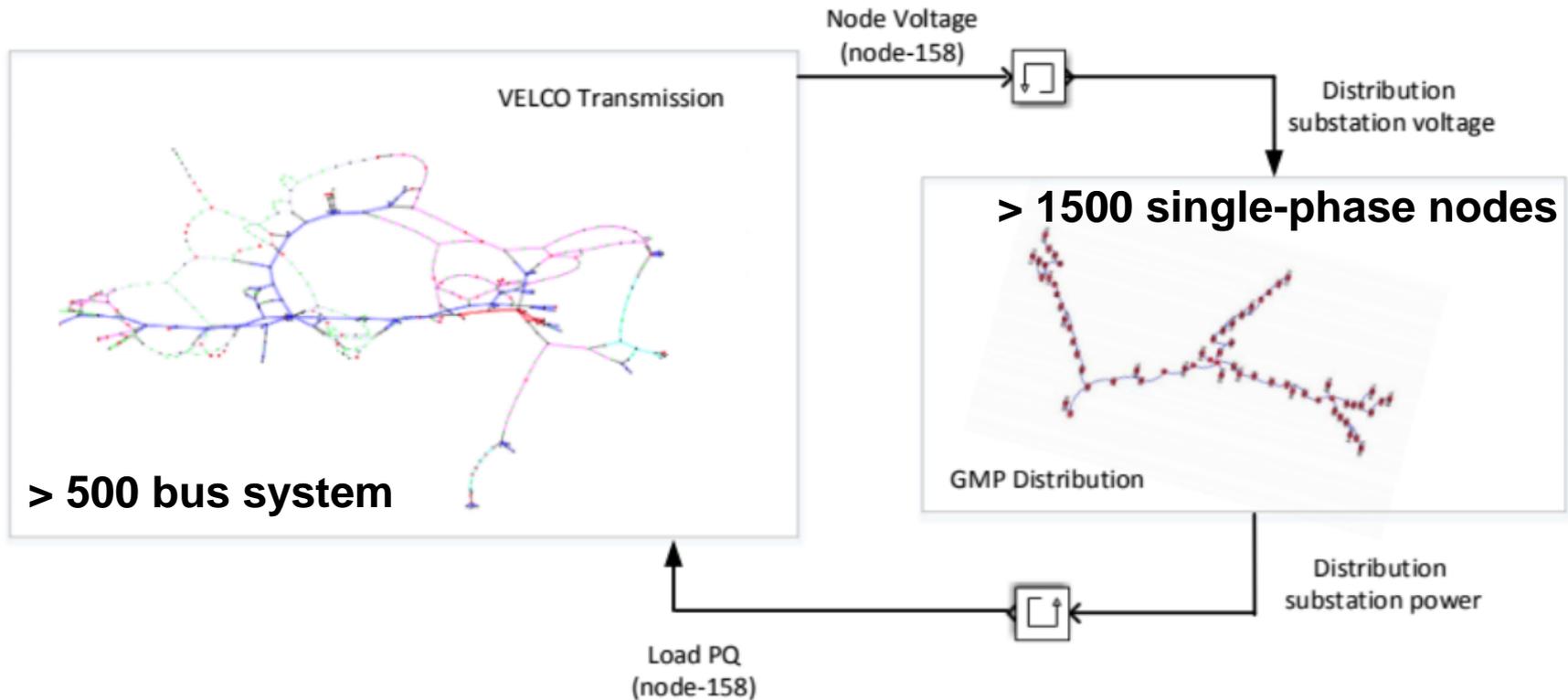
- ▶ DSO aggregating its local VPPs; updates TSO
- ▶ TSO determines balancing need and communicates with Level 2 (DSO) via MATLAB



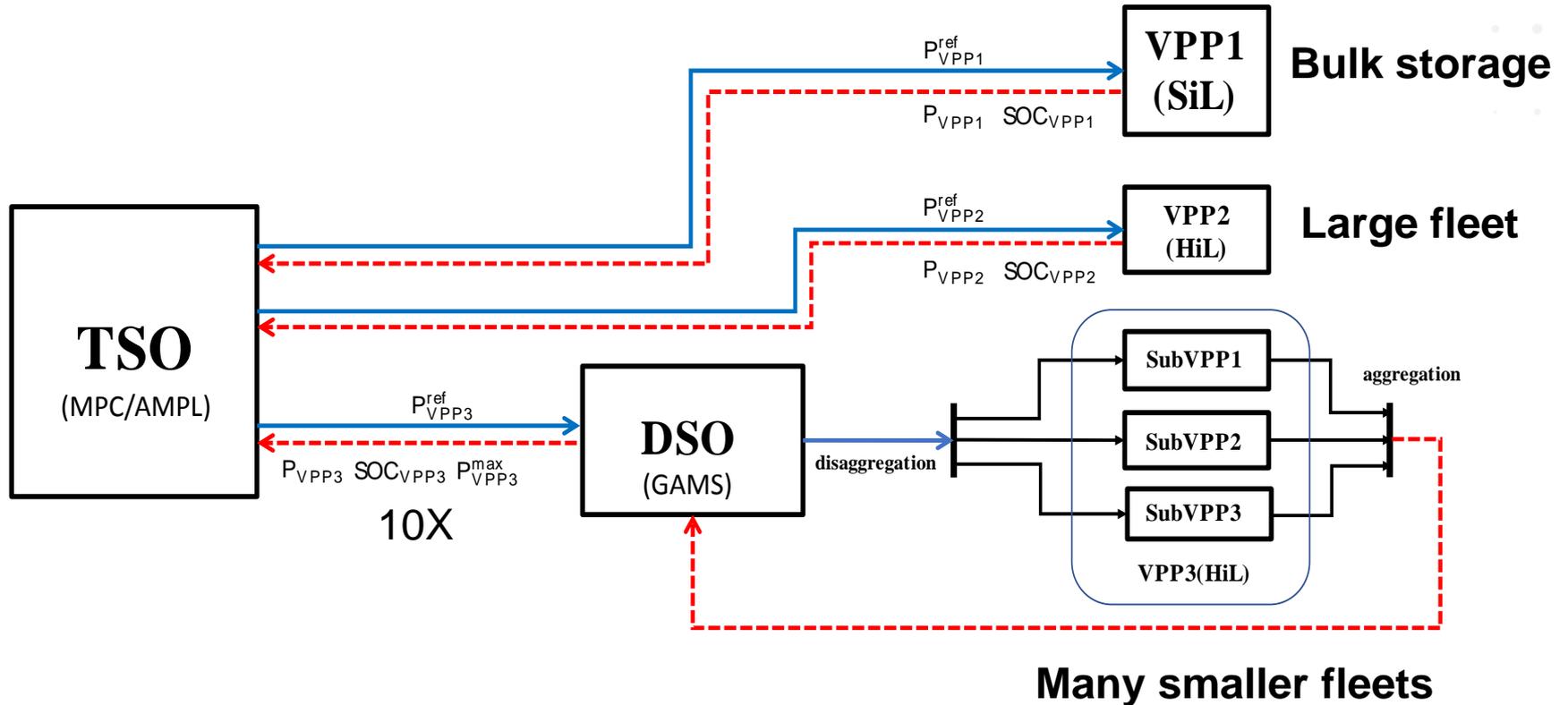


Validation plan (HIL)

- Major Tasks Completed
 - HIL Implementation of Transmission and Distribution (T&D)
 - Decoupled Approach

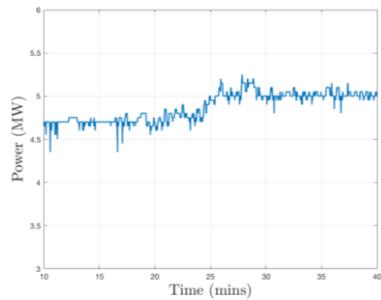


HiL experiment setup: VPP specs



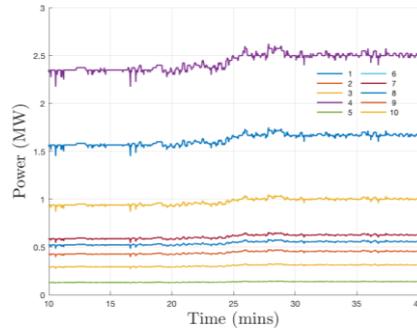
TSO-DSO-Fleet

TSO computes VPP balancing control signals to DSO



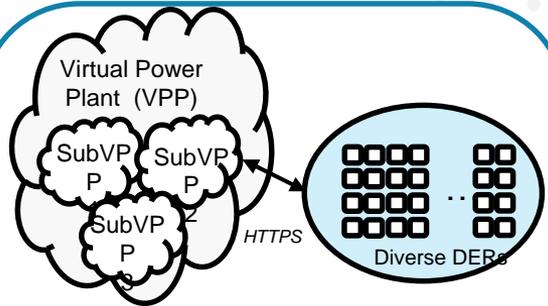
MATLAB and ePHASORSIM

DSO disaggregates VPP signal into sub-VPP signals to fulfill VPP balancing requests



HTTPS

Sub-VPP accepts/rejects requests based on available local DER flexibility



Transmission System Operator (TSO), Level 1

VEP (ID)	Target Power (MW)	Actual Power (MW)	Power Flex (MW)	Energy Flex (MWh)
1	5	5.13	5	8.2 MWh
2				
:				
N				

Distribution System Operator (DSO), Level 2

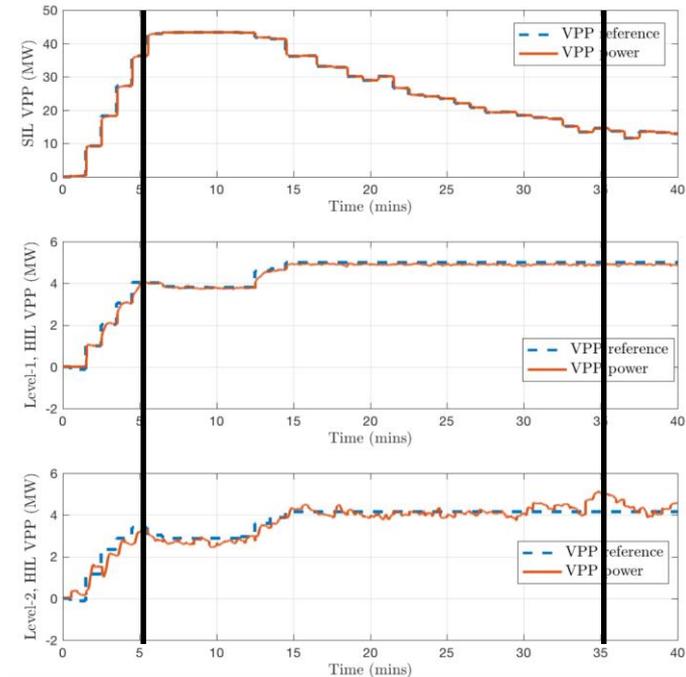
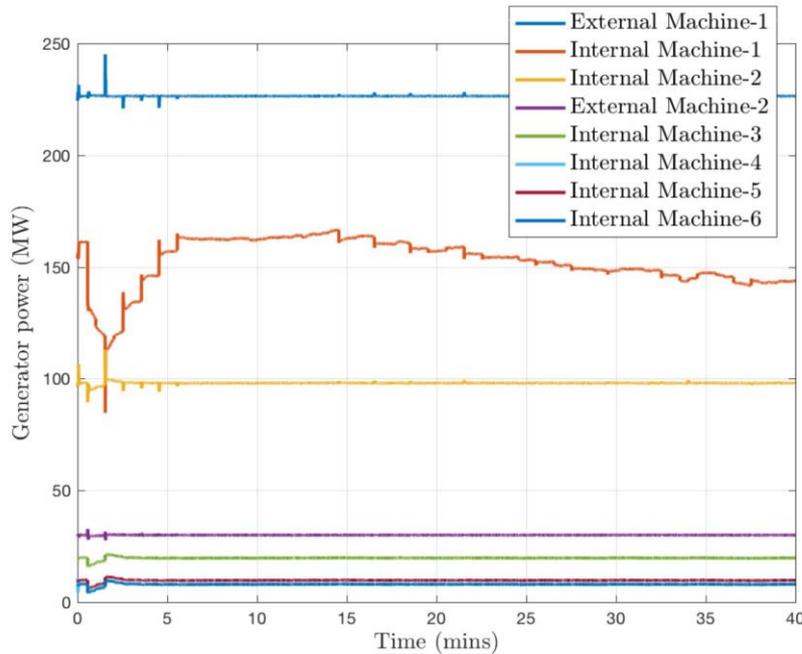
VE ID	VE ID	Target Power (MW)	Actual Power (MW)	Power Flex (MW)	Energy Flex (MWh)
1	1	1.55	1.60	2	4.0
2	1	0.95	0.98	1.5	2.0
3	2				
4	1	2.5	2.55	1.5	2.2

Sub-VPP with PEM, Level 3

Dev ID	VEC ID	P _{rated}	Relay State	PEM State
100	1	5		ON
:	:			:
199	1	4.5		OFF
200	2	4		OPT-OUT
:	:			:
299	2	5		ON
:	:	:		:

Tracking with PEM (HIL)

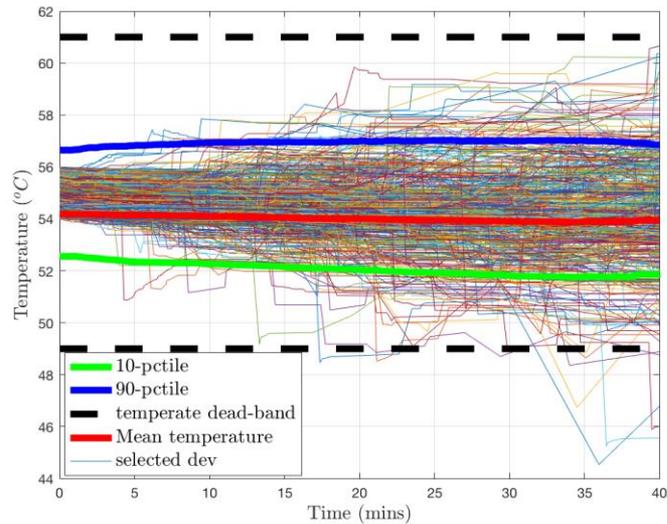
- ▶ OPAL-RT's ePhasorsim + 9000 simulated DERs running on own clock and online server (as VPP)



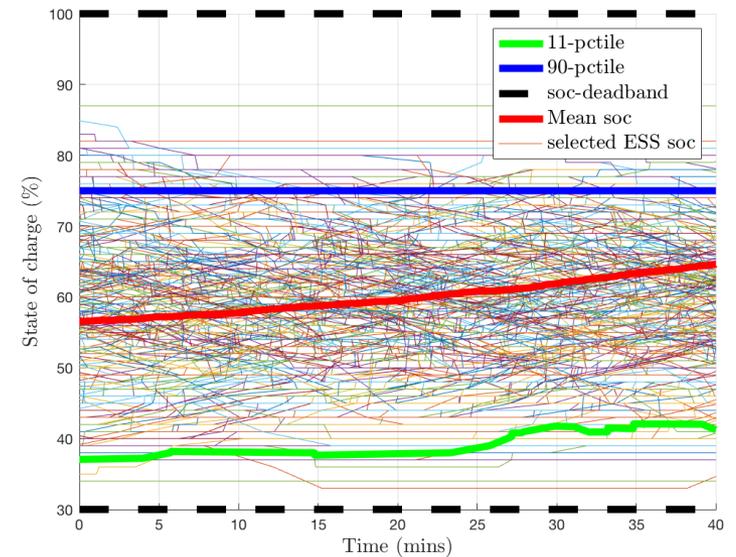
Tracking RSME < 3%

Tracking with PEM (HIL)

▶ Packetized water-heater QoS

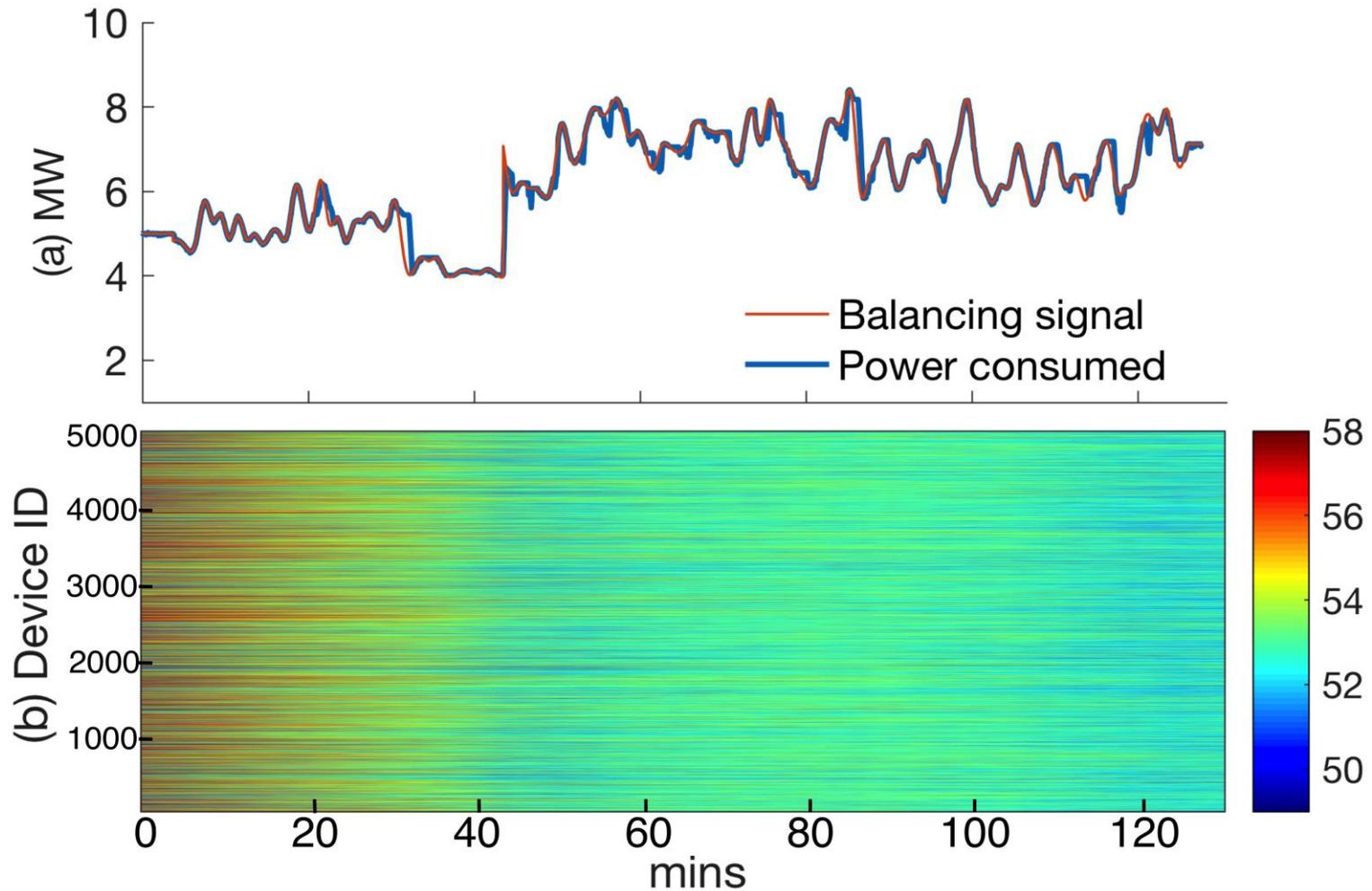


▶ Packetized distributed batteries QoS



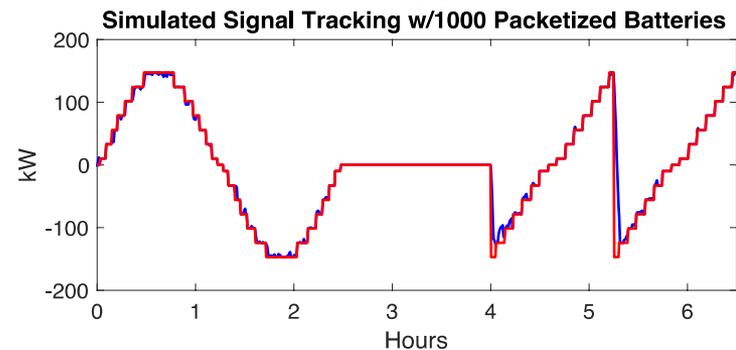
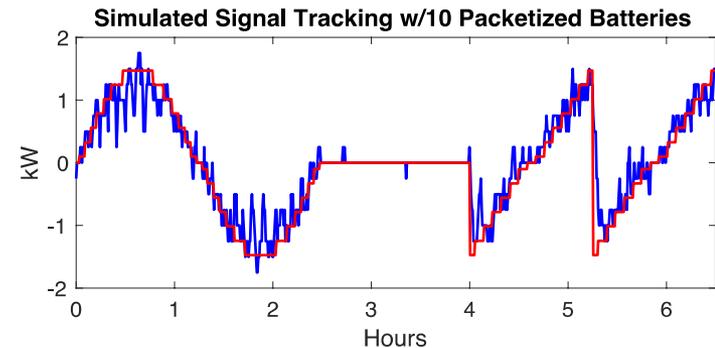
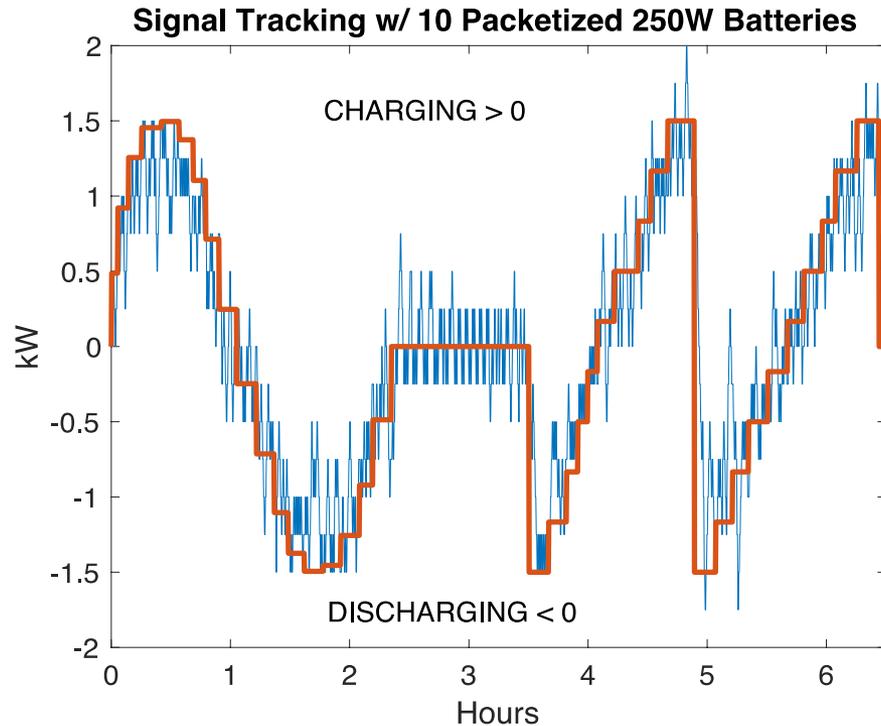
Pre-defined QoS is maintained

Tracking a stochastic signal (HIL)



Tracking a periodic signal (HIL demo)

10 Enphase's AC Batteries packetized into VB

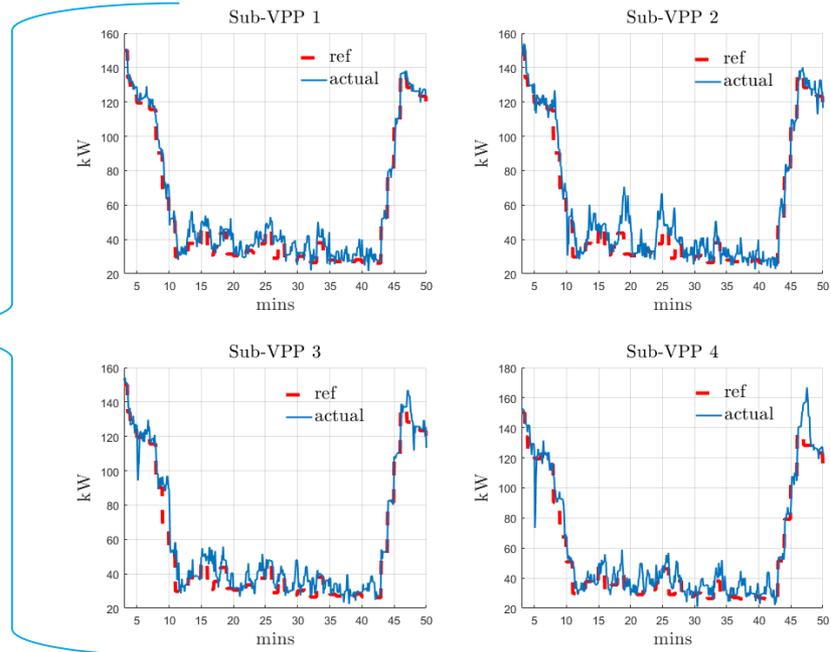
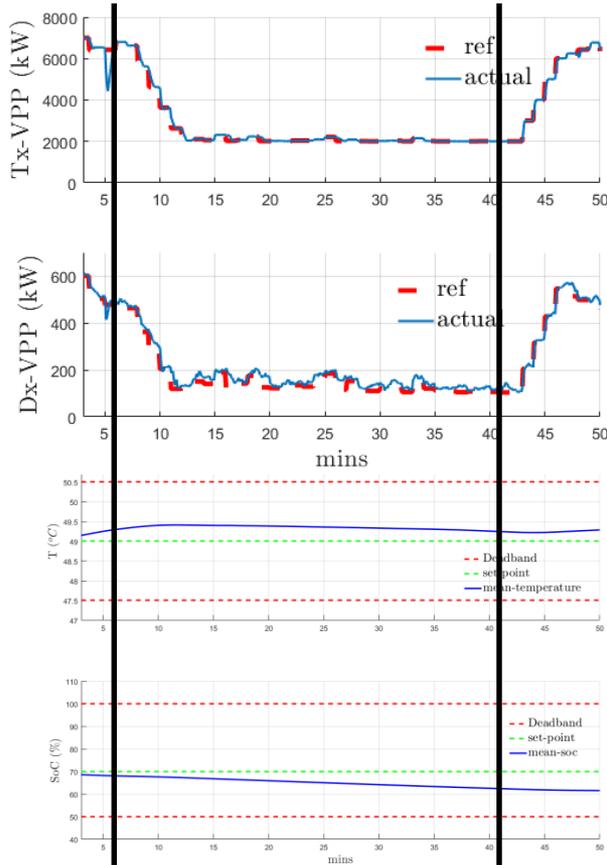


Tracking with PEM (Large-scale sim)

Tracking with 9000 (Tx) &

1000 (Dx) devices

QoS



Aggregation is valuable



Tech to Market Path and IAB



Network
Optimized
Distributed
Energy
Systems



UTILITY PARTNERS



SOLUTION PROVIDERS



GOVERNMENT & POLICY



TECH 2 MARKET



IAB Future of Energy workshop held in Fall 2018
Workshop focus: flexibility, economics, and resilience of DERs
Conference call to be scheduled for April, 2019



Tech to Market Path and IAB

- Spin-off established in parallel to project (May 2016)
- Demonstrating & deploying NODES IP in the field
- Completed Berkeley/Haas C2M program.
- Completed Accelerate-VT program
- \$350K seed investment round completed
- Awarded federal awards (>\$500K) and more pending
- Raising pre-A/A round currently

Four industry-funded pilot projects ongoing



5-year Phase II project signed

EWHs + EVs



150 packetized DERs with simulated live grid conditions

EWHs + Batteries



300 packetized water heaters, some batteries

Mostly EWHs



Focused on resistive/heat pump water heaters to mitigate duck-curve effects

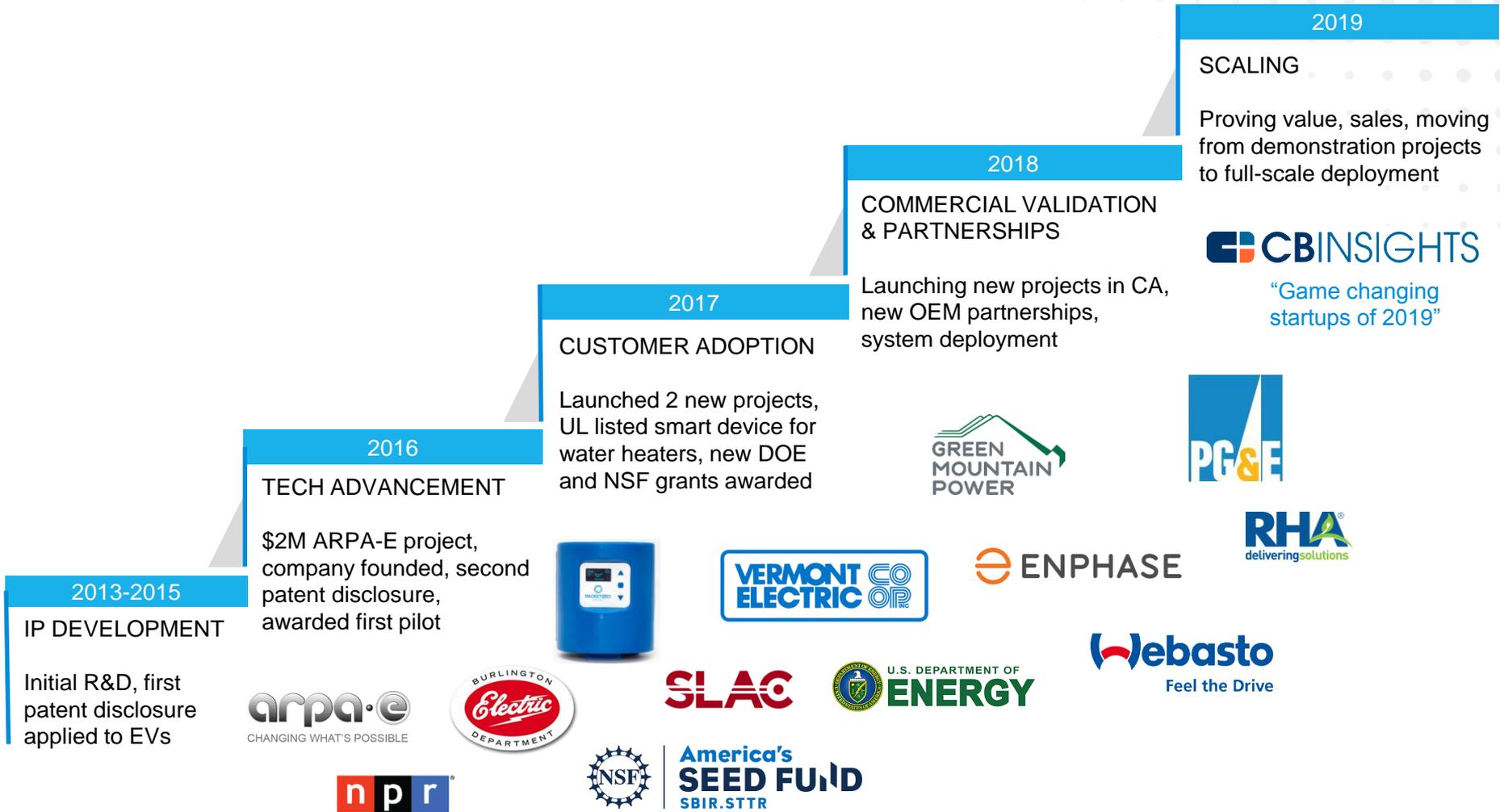
Dozens to 100s in Phase 1

Demonstration status with GMP

- ▶ GMP reached out to customers in Nov, 2018
 - Received 300 responses within 1 week!
- ▶ **Jan 30th, 2019: total of 76 devices allocated**
 - 20 devices deployed in homes already
 - 40 signed contracts to be deployed shortly
 - 24 of them at a single location (apartment building)
 - 16 customers sent contracts and installed once returned
- ▶ Another 74 devices need a home and we're working with GMP to ramp up marketing and outreach.
 - GMP has all Mellos already and expect good response
- ▶ Already have 8 packetized Enphase batteries (ACB1.0) and looking to acquire a few of their new batteries (ACB2.0)



Tech to market path





Tech to Market Path and IAB

DER coordination platform running with real hardware in the loop



Kate and Scott from PE at DTech



Mello™
UL-listed smart thermostat for water heaters

PoC solutions for connecting EV chargers and distributed batteries*, and more

**working prototype with*  ENPHASE

Still to come: HVAC + Heat-pump

Deployment Programs

- Fuel switching enabling utilities to sell more clean electricity
- Marketing for rapid DER adoption



Virtual battery & physical battery

Battery designed to power 1000 homes for four hours ($\pm 1\text{MW}$, 4MWh)



	per kWh	Total
Upfront cost	\$ 450	\$ 1,800,000
Ongoing O&M cost	\$ 5/yr	\$ 20,000/yr
Customer dividend	\$ 0	\$ 0
Present value cost	\$ 481	\$ 1,922,891

Equivalent Packetized Virtual Battery (2000 devices, $\pm 1\text{MW}$, 4MWh)



About half the cost of batteries today and getting better!

	Per device	per kWh	Total
Upfront cost	\$ 200	\$ 100	\$ 400,000
Software	\$ 30/yr	\$ 15/yr	\$ 60,000/yr
Customer dividend	\$ 30/yr	\$ 15/yr	\$ 60,000/yr
Present value cost		\$ 284	\$ 1,137,348



Tech to Market Plan

Nimble™ virtual battery software platform



PeakCrusher. Advanced peak reduction tool. Pre-positions before events and adapts to real-time conditions to avoid cold/hot load pickup (**Online today at utility**)



LoadShaper. Automated energy arbitrage to minimize wholesale energy costs (**Online today at utility**)



FastTracker. Access ancillary service markets with fleets of grid-edge, packetized DERs & direct access to markets (in R&D)



GridSolver. Data-driven, real-time grid management to mitigating T&D CapEx and manage DERs within (local) physical constraints (In R&D)

4 MODULES

“NODES Cat. 3”

“NODES Cat. 2”

“NODES Cat. 1”

Grid services



Next steps

Spring
2019

- Help GMP finish deployment
- Get OpenADR up and running between UVM and PE
- Install and test a couple larger batteries

Summer
2019

- Complete GMP demonstration of > 100 diverse DERs
- Final report and benefit analysis

Future

- Extend PEM to faster time-scales (FastTracker)
- Incorporate live grid conditions into PEM (GridSolver)



Thank you! Questions? Comments?



Join us in Atlanta, GA!

Optimization Methods for Unbalanced Power Distribution Systems (2 NODES teams)

Chair: WSU

Enabling Advanced Grid Operations with DER coordination (5 NODES teams)

Co-chair: PNNL

Advanced Grid Architectures to support scalable DER integration (5 NODES teams)

Co-chair: SCE

Dates to be set shortly